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Address of Welcome.

BY HON. LEWIS H. MILLER.

Members of the Economic Association:

It gives me very great pleasure to welcome you, in behalf of Chautauqua, to the shores of this most beautiful lake, to these beautiful groves, and to the fresh air that floats over them, fourteen hundred feet above the ocean; and to the beautiful halls, as we call them; and this platform, where there is given expression to freedom of thought and freedom of opinion, where we have invited all thought that has in it, as we conceive, the education of mankind.

And none, I believe, are more welcome than you, who have come here to discuss economic problems. I believe that the economic phase of humanity lies as near the heart of the work for the Christian man as does the other side, which says: "Love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart, mind and strength." I believe that when we have solved the problem of how we can best serve humanity we have largely solved the problem of how we can worship God the best.

And in these days when we feel and realize, and nearly everybody gives expression to the thought, that something is out of joint, and that something must be done, you come with these problems of the Farmers' Alliance, of taxation, and the questions

that show that we are disturbed, and that some new turn must be taken or chaos will come.

Garfield once said that the world has struggled for years to get time. Chautauqua is trying to solve the problem of how to use time. That there must be a new chapter devoted to our labor problem there is no doubt. The eight-hour problem and those that revolve around that are before us, and must be solved. If, possibly, we adopt the eight-hour system, what shall be done with the time that men will have? Our company tried the eight-hour system a little way several years ago, and for two years we worked eight hours only, giving the men full pay. It worked admirably, and, so far as I could judge, I found that they did just as much work in the eight hours. We did not build a machine less; nay, we increased the number of machines with fewer men under the eight-hour system. There was no trouble in that line. But being among other factories and working only eight hours, the men, instead of resting and using their time for the development of their brains and for development socially, went over to the other workshops and put in daily three or four hours more. We tired them out twice in the day.

These problems are so great and so vital that they ought to vibrate and revibrate through these halls and over this country until we can give them solution. I welcome you most heartily to this platform, and to the free discussion of these questions in all their phases. And with this welcome I turn over the organization to William W. Folwell, of the University of Minnesota, Second Vice-President of the American Economic Association.